

W UNITED TRIBES TECHNICAL COLLEGE WEEKLY NEWSLETTE R

VOL. 4 NO. 11

December 4, 1995

Weekly Menu

Dec. 4 to Dec. 8

DINNER

- Mon- Poor Boy Sandwich with Turkey & Ham, Potato Chips, Potato Salad, Assorted Fresh Fruit, 2% Milk
Tue- Taco Salad, Dinner Buns, Assorted Fresh Fruit, 2% Milk
Wed- Swedish Meatballs over Noodles, Vegetable, Salad, Dessert, 2% Milk
Thu.- French Dip with Au-Jus, Salad Bar, Tossed Salad, Assorted Fresh Fruit, 2% Milk
Fri.- Knoeple Soup, Breaded Chicken Filet, Mashed Potatoes, Creamed Gravy, Dinner Roll, Salad Bar, 2% Milk

Dec. 11

- Mon.- Chuckwagon Stew, Baking Powder Biscuit, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Relish Tray, 2% Milk

SUPPER

- Mon.- Braised Beef over Noodles, Vegetable, Salad, Fresh Fruit, 2% Milk
Tue.- Bar-B-Que Chicken, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Dinner Roll, Salad, Dessert, 2% Milk
Wed.- Hamburger on a Bun, Soup, Salad Bar, Dessert, 2% Milk
Thr.- Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, Salad, Dessert, 2% Milk
Fri.- Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Vegetable, Salad Bar, Dessert, 2% Milk
Mon.- Bar-B-Que Ribs, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Salad, Dessert, 2% Milk

To All December 1995 Graduates

It is one of the requirements at United Tribes Technical College that you check out with our office the week of December 4, 1995. We need to update your database cards and fill out an exit contact form. It is very important that we know how to contact you for reasons of statistics, computer data-base information, and for the possibility of placement monies available for you if this is part of your agency's policy.

We need to know where you want to be placed (city, state, country); what company you may be interested in; and basically your plans after graduation. The sooner you come to see us, the sooner we can make plans for your future employment. If you find employment on your own after graduation, please give the necessary information to our office.

This information is vital to the heart beat of our institution. We need these statistics to report to our funding organizations who provide the economic means to run our institution.

Remember that the Placement Office is one of your required check points on campus before graduation of the 20th of December 1995. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Vince Schanandore, Placement Counselor



December Birthdays

On December 6th at 4 o' clock there will be a recognition for all the students who have birthdays in December. Because we had such nice reception for the November birthdays, we would like to continue the event by inviting not only the birthday people but all students and staff to help the December Birthday people celebrate by sharing some birthday cake and coffee. We also would like to thank Pam and her cooking class for baking the birthday cakes.

The following are having birthdays this month:

Corey Cameron	Dec. 1
Keva Janis	Dec. 1
Elizabeth Good Shield	Dec. 2
Terry Wilson	Dec. 5
Janel Strikes Enemy	Dec. 11
Janet Uses Many	Dec. 11
Leon Running Hawk	Dec. 12
Bruce Eagleman Sr.	Dec. 14
Francine Narum	Dec. 15
Candance Bull Bear	Dec. 17
Delvin Four Bear	Dec. 19
Lisa Wallowing Bull	Dec. 19
Julie Dorothy	Dec. 20
Thurlo Tidzump	Dec. 21
Ray Laundreaux	Dec. 25
Henley Brady	Dec. 26
Bernard Strikes Enemy	Dec. 27
Roxanne Webster	Dec. 27
Valdon St. John	Dec. 31

Holiday Craft & Gift Sale

Have something to sell?

Need some gifts for christmas-birthdays?

When: Dec. 13, 1995 - 2:30-4:30

Where: Skills Center Exhibit Hall

Who: Buyers! Sellers! Lookers!

Register for free door prizes.

Tables, chairs and table cloths will be furnished.

Sponsored by Student Affairs Committee.

Contact or leave on voice mail one of the following members.

Pam Carllassio	244
Paul Scheider	264
Lee Friease	243
Don Rush	338
Marge Palaniuk	234

Students & Faculty Observed World AIDS

Students & Faculty at United Tribes Technical College observed World AIDS Day December 1, as part of the nationwide effort to commemorate the 15th year since the first diagnosis of AIDS in the United States.

The United Tribes Technical College commemoration the day with a public presentation called "Seasons of Life" at 9 a.m. The presentation included a prayer service, a skit about the dangers of HIV infection, a candle-lighting ceremony, and the reading of a poem written by a HIV-positive Native American, Kevin Nephew (Seneca, N.Y.) He died in June, 1995.

Remarks were given by President David M. Gipp, Suzanne Cadotte, and a group discussion on the skit played by student and faculty.



In the play were: L to R (top row): Syphilis - Kathy Tokach, AASPN Instructor; Gonorrhea - Julie Cain, Art Expo Secretary; Chlamydia - Allison Hertel, Nursery Staff; Genital Warts - Brian Palecek, English Teacher; Herpes - Duane Uses Arrow, CJ Student; (Couch) - Shelly Two Bulls, CJ Student; Thurlo Tidzump, CJ Student.

Since AIDS was first diagnosed in the United States, there have been 176 cases of HIV reported in the state.

Periodic Health Screening Assessment

The Bismarck City Nursing staff will be here on Campus Tuesday, Dec. 5th to do an Early Periodic Screening for all of the children ages birth to five years old. The screening will begin at 8:30 a.m. and continue through the afternoon.

These screening apply to the children of our Married and Solo Parents. At least one parent must be present at the screening. Please encourage your students to schedule their appointments on their free time or in between classes.

The screening will take place at the nursery area located in Sakakawea Hall.

If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call at ext. 600.

Val Finley, V.P., N.C.

Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs

United Tribes Technical College will be officially participating in the North Dakota Interactive Video Network beginning with the 1996 Spring Semester. The courses being offered through IVN (Interactive Video Network) are listed below:

Dept. No. Title	Instructor	Time/Day	Credit	Location
BIO 240 Wildlife Conservation UND (Host Campus) IVN		11 MW	2	SC 112
MTH 104 Algebra II FBCC (Host Campus) IVN		12 Noon-2 pm	4	SC 112
MTH 240 Statistics FBCC (Host Campus) IVN		9 MWF	4	SC 112
SCI 104 Physical Science		1-4 T, 1-3 R Lab 3-4 R		SC 112

All UTTC Students/Faculty/Staff interested in enrolling in these courses or any other courses listed on the 1996 Spring Semester Course schedule must register through the Registrar's Office. The 1996 Spring Semester Course Schedule are posted at various locations around campus for your convenience. Please remember to pre-register early. We will be closing classes when they are filled.

If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call at ext. 283 or Amanda Bird Bear at 216.

Learning Center Evening Hours

for the week of Dec. 4 - Dec. 8.

Monday, Dec. 4th: 6-9 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 5th: 7-9 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 6th: 6-9 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 7th: 6-9 p.m.

North Dakota Interactive Video Network

The North Dakota Interactive Video Network (ND IVN) has finally arrived at United Tribes Technical College. The IVN classroom is located at the Skills Center, Rm 112 and can seat 18 comfortably. Here is a brief description of what the North Dakota Interactive Video Network is all about.

The North Dakota Interactive Video Network (ND IVN) is dedicated to support of Distance Education in North Dakota. The ND IVN mission is to "deliver quality postsecondary programs and services to citizens who would not otherwise have access to those services. University credit courses have first priority for scheduling; however, the system may also be used for noncredit workshops, conferences, and meetings.

The ND IVN is supported by the North Dakota University System and the North Dakota Information Services Division. The Network includes 28 classrooms and conference rooms at 11 North Dakota University Systems Campuses, five Tribal Colleges, the State Capital, and the North Dakota State Hospital, plus connections with several high schools in North Dakota.

The system utilizes TV cameras, monitors, microphones and other telecommunications equipment to transmit live audio and video between two or more locations. Instruction and presentation can be made from any site, and participants at all sites are able to see and hear each other. Multiple events can be conducted simultaneously utilizing different classrooms.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call at ext. 283.

*News for the next weekly
Newsletter should be turned in
no later than
December 8, 1995.*

IF YOU FIND MISTAKES
in this publication, please
consider that they are there
for a purpose. We publish
something for everyone, and
some people are always
looking for mistakes!





STUDENTS

THERE WILL BE STUDENT SENATE MEETING ON MONDAY DECEMBER 4, 1995.
AT BUILDING 61. AT 4:00 PM.

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS HAVE SIGNED UP TO BE ON THE STUDENT
ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE. WOULD YOU PLEASE ATTEND THE STUDENT SENATE
MEETING ON MONDAY DECEMBER 4, 1995:

*Ronette Kirkie,
Student Senate*

TODD GEORGE	OLIVIA JOHNSON	AUDREY ESTES
BOBBI POURIER	WAYNITA CHASKE	JAMES TALLWHITEMAN
RAYMOND LANDREAUX		V. PHELPS
JOY CONDON	BRENDA KIRKIE	

ANY OTHER STUDENTS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THIS
COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND!

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS THAT HAVE SIGNED UP TO BE ON THE
STUDENT AWARDS COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND THE STUDENT SENATE
MEETING ON DECEMBER 4, 1995.

Pam Carlascio

SHIRLEY WITT

ANY OTHER STUDENTS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THIS
COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND THE MEETING.

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS THAT HAVE SIGNED UP TO SERVE ON THE
CALENDAR AND COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND THE STUDENT
SENATE MEETING ON DECEMBER 4, 1995 AT 4:00 PM.

Monica Comeau

DORIS HUTTON	SHRILEY WITT	V. PHELPS
JOY CONDON		

ANY OTHER STUDENTS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THIS
COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND.

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS THAT HAVE SIGNED UP TO SERVE ON THE
✓GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND THE STUDENT SENATE MEETING ON
DECEMBER 4, 1995 AT 4:00PM.

Andy Rendon

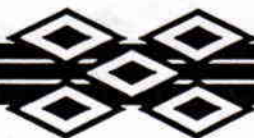
PIERRE BERGER	JACKIE MONTGOMERY
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ANY OTHER STUDENTS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THIS
COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND THE MEETING.

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS THAT HAVE SIGNED UP TO SERVE ON THE
GRADUATION COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND THE STUDENT SENATE MEETING ON
DECEMBER 4, 1995 AT 4:00PM.

Pam Carlascio

LETITIA STEWART



Russell Swagger

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS THAT HAVE SIGNED UP TO SERVE ON THE HOUSING COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND THE STUDENT SENATE MEETING ON DECEMBER 4, 1995 AT 4:00PM.

JACKIE MONTGOMERY
VICKIE PHELPS

DORIS HUTTON
LISA CONDON

MICHELLE BEARHEELS

ANY OTHER STUDENTS INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THIS COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND THE MEETING.

Ed Johnson

THERE ARE NO STUDENTS THAT SIGNED UP FOR THE CAFETERIA COMMITTEE, ANY ONE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THIS COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND THE STUDENT SENATE MEETING ON DECEMBER 4 1995 AT 4:00PM.

Red Cook

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS THAT SIGNED UP FOR THE HEARING COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND THE STUDENT SENATE MEETING ON DECEMBER 4, 1995 AT 4:00 PM.

MICHELLE BEARHEELS WINNA BURTON

THURLO TIDZEUMP

ANY OTHER STUDENTS INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THIS COMMITTEE, PLEASE ATTEND THE STUDENT SENATE MEETING ON DECEMBER 4 1995 AT 4:00 PM

WOULD THE FOLLOWING STAFF MEMBERS THAT SERVE ON THE ABOVE COMMITTEE'S, AND ANY OTHERS I DID NOT MENTION, PLEASE CONTACT RONNETTE KIRKIE OR ANY OTHER STUDENT SENATE MEMBER, BEFORE THE STUDENT SENATE MEETING ON DECEMBER 4, 1995.

You may reach Ronnette at 221-0611 or leave a message with James Stein.

AL STOCKERT
RUSSELL SWAGART
SAM AZURE
AMANDA BIRD BEAR
RED COOK

Monica Comeau

Pam Carlavicio

Ed Johnson

Andy Rendon

ANY OTHER STAFF MEMBERS I DID NOT MENTION, THAT DO HEAD ONE OF THE COMMITTEE'S ABOVE.



The Seven Tribal Colleges of
Montana presents the
15th Annual AIHEC
Spring Conference

Sponsoring Institutions
SKC, LBHC, FPCC, DKMC, FBC, BCC, SCC

Site: Holiday Inn Plaza & Clarion
Billings, Montana

Dates: March 31, April 1-3, 1996
Sunday to Wednesday

Conference Theme:

The Commitment to Survive in the Face of Adversity
A Native American Warrior Tradition

Other Critical Strands

- A. College Resources and Strategies for a New Era
- B. Telecommunications and TeleDistance Learning and Teaching in Tribal Communities
- C. Land Grant Status:
Tribal Colleges, the Land & Its People
- D. Cultural & Economic Renaissance in Montana
Indian Country

Co-Chairs:

Luanne Belcourt, President SCC
Janine Pease-Pretty On Top, President LBHC
Letitia Stewart, AIHEC Student Congress President

ESTIMATED Registration Rates, given registration of
1,200 participants, 50% students

TCC Faculty/Administration.....	\$100
TCC Students.....	\$ 50
General Participant.....	\$125

Features:

Academic Bowl, Competitions, Art Show, Strands for
Students, Faculty, Trustees, and Administration

TJES Christmas Program
Thursday, December 14
2:30 p.m.
UTTC Small Gym

Do you want to get in the mood for Christmas? All students, staff and faculty are invited to the elementary school Christmas program. There will be songs and poems by the Kindergarten and 1st grade students and a puppet performance by grades 2, 3 and 4. A group of 5th through 8th graders will serve as puppeteers as we present the show, "Cookin' up Christmas". The children work hard to learn their parts and it means so much to them to have the support of family and friends in the audience. Please plan to attend now.

FUNDING

**National Association of Social Work
(NASW)**

An application form and brochure with information on how to apply for the Gosnell Memorial Scholarship for Master of Social Work students. Can be obtained at the Counseling Department if you are interested. Applicants will need to fill out the application form and follow the procedure outlined in the brochure.

If you would like more information or have any questions contact Royce Irwin at ext. 291.

**AASPN Program Submits
Grant Proposed**

Faculty of the AASPN Program have been busy preparing a grant proposal for consideration by the Helene Fuld Health Trust Fund. Hardware and software requests have been included along with a "point job" for the classrooms and offices in the Nursing Department. Prayers are invited to bring about a favorable response - - which will come in early June. Thanks!

Three years ago the Foundation awarded the Department \$16,110 used for some hardware and software, window repair and venetian blinds for the nursing area. We've got the answer to you in June.

submitted by Sister Kathryn Zimmer, Director, AASPN

**Chemical Health Center
"Where the Spirit Lives"**

To: All Students & Staff & their Families

Date: December 12, 1995

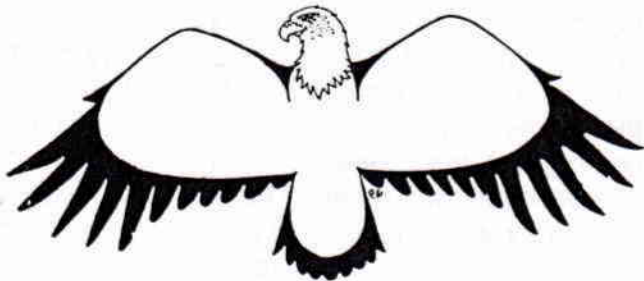
When: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Where: Cafeteria

What: Christmas Caroling

Why: To get us all into the Spirit of Christmas

Refreshments will be served!!!



Fire Safety for the Holidays

Fire Safety is just as important during the holidays as it is all year. In fact, it's even more important because of the extra responsibilities that special occasions bring. The following precautions will help eliminate any accidental fires.

THANKSGIVING:

- * Start holiday cooking with a clean stove and oven.
- * Turn pot handles away from the childrens reach.
- * Use pot holders to prevent burns.
- * Never over load electrical outlets, unplug applicants when not in use.

CHRISTMAS:

- * Make sure artificial trees are flame-retardant.
- * Never smoke around the tree or flammable decorations.
- * Place trees away from direct heat.
- * Never decorate metal trees with electric lights.
- * Always unplug lights when not in the home or before going to bed.
- * Keep candles in sturdy holders.

Taking simple precautions can make all of your holiday celebrations safe and memorable.

FIRE NEVER TAKES A HOLIDAY

Living Sober

by Kevin F. Peniska

Just two words,
to some.

Maybe that is all they are,
just two words.

But for many,
I know,

It has become a way of life.

The concept of Living Sober-

It is so hard to comprehend?

This possibility,

to take this bottle or this joint,
from my hand.

To imagine,

That there is a life,

beyond this abuse of these chemicals
this abuse of myself,

Think about it my friend,

to be free,

means sacrifice,

the giving up of one thing for another.

The lives of our people depend on it,

the victories of the future,

we will win.

We will win,

By being alcohol and drug free,

Living Sober:

I have done this for a long time now,

I start every day the same,

and I end every day the same.

Living Sober...

Be brave and join me,

if you can?



THUNDERBIRDS LOSE

Notes from the Student Health Center:

A special thank you to staff & students who participated in the World AIDS Day activities on Friday, December 1, 1995. We hope that you learned more about the AIDS epidemic and enjoyed the skit that was put on by students & staff (Applause! Applause!). We hope to see you all again next year at the same time.

In recent months, quite a number of students have failed to return their clinic authorization slips after being examined by a physician (1/2 white sheet of paper). Students **MUST** return this authorization slip in order for the student's medical file to be completed. Failure to do so may result in your medical bill not getting paid.

Also, those students who are in need of an eye exam or dental work, please made arrangements with your home agency to get the needed appointment scheduled over the Christmas break.

The annual blood sugar & cholesterol screening was held on November 16, 1995. There were 44 students and staff who participated in the screening (21 staff & 23 students).

These are the guidelines that were used:

Blood Glucose - 80-120

Cholesterol - <200 desirable cholesterol level

200-239 - borderline cholesterol level

240> high blood cholesterol

Results:

	Female	Male
Smokers	14	5
Elevated Blood Glucose	4	5
On Blood Pressure Meds.	3	2
Diabetics	2	2
Elevated Cholesterol Level	6	5
On Cholesterol Meds.	0	1
Family Hx. of Heart Disease	0	2

Average glucose range - 25 to 320

Cholesterol - Less than 150 to 250

On November 21, 1995 the UTTC "Thunderbirds" traveled to UND-Lake Region in Devils Lake for their second conference game, the Royals jumped out to a 24-3 lead and never looked back and ended up winning the game by a score of 103-76. "We were coming off of a 3 game losing streak at home and we were just flat-out out played, I don't think the team understands yet that playing this game at this level takes a high degree of mental toughness and the importance of being physically capable of playing the game, you must be in tip-top physical condition to be at the top of your game and the off the court things should be put aside by EVERYONE if we are going to be successful, this team is full of potential but we have yet to put together 40 solid minutes of team basketball." December 1 & 2, 1995 marked the "Can-Am Classic" in Williston ND. UTTC's first round opponent was NDSU-Bottineau, a team which UTTC handled quit easily on their home court earlier this season, "these guys were coming into the tournament on a 6 game winning streak so I knew we had to be mentally prepared - them, they shoot the ball well and run the floor as good as anyone, we played the first half right with them as the half ended 37-35 NDSU-Bottineau. "We had a few let downs to start the second half and they took advantage of them and quit playing" said coach Finley, NDSU-Bottineau won the game 94-68. UND-Williston was next and again the "Thunderbirds" came out and played an excellent first half with the same results in the second half as the "Thunderbirds" ended up getting beat by a score of 111-68 "UND-Williston is the best team we've faced so far this season, they play team basketball and they play it well. "No matter what it is a person is attempting to accomplish in life, if you quit or let up for even one minute you are going to suffer set backs, being able to understand the lessons of failure and the ability to overcome those set backs are the keys to success" says coach Finley. The Thunderbirds play Bismarck State College tonight (Monday) at BSC at 7:30 pm, "We are in need of a win to regain our confidence in each other, but most of all we need you, the fans and your support. Hope to see you at the game!!!

Caps & Mittens are available at Student Health

**THIRD ANNUAL
ALL NATIONS INDIAN EDUCATION/BILINGUAL CONFERENCE**

"Let's Put Our Heads Together and See What We Can Do For Our Children"
Sitting Bull - Hunkpapa Lakota

RADISSON INN
800 South 3rd
Bismarck, North Dakota
December 28, 29, 30, 1995

Sponsored by: Ft Berthold School Board Association

FEATURING:

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Don Bartlette, "Macaroni at Midnight,"
Allen Tsinigini, President of NIEA
Jay Taken Alive, President of Standing Rock Nation
Les LaFontaine, North Dakota State Senator
Luke YellowRobe, Cultural Relations Director
Dr. Joe Martin, Superintendent Kayenta School District
Bob Bennett, Professional Pitcher for Oakland A's
Russell "Bud" Mason, Chairman, Three Affiliated Tribes

BILINGUAL EDUCATION STRAND:

Bilingual Technology Training

ADMINISTRATOR STRAND:

Extended Day Activities
Standards and Benchmarks
Dealing with Stress and Burnout
Recruitment, Procurement of Staff
Effective Organization Management
ISEP Finance - Grant Writing

YOUTH STRAND:

Journalism in Schools
Nerd, Geeks, Peer Pressure
Making it in the Big Leagues
Taking Responsibility For Your Own Learning
Student Leadership Panel
Love, Snagging and AIDS

PARENT/SUPPORT STAFF STRAND:

Effective Parenting
Family Values
Making Indian Education Politically Effective Through JOM
Becoming an Effective Communicator
Comprehensive Federal Indian Policy Statement

TEACHER STRAND:

Building Level Support/Classroom Management
Early Prevention/Intervention
Doll Company - Gifted & Talented Program
Discipline with Dignity
Technology Planning
Performance Assessment

ON SITE REGISTRATION ONLY: \$60.00 for Adults, No Charge for Students

Also Featuring: *North Dakota Indian Education Association Meeting*
Voter Education Forum sponsored by United Tribes
Arts and Crafts Booths
Educational Booths and Exhibits
Commercial Exhibits
All Nations Pow-Wow
All Nations High School Basketball Tournament

- * *Block of rooms reserved at Radisson Inn*
- * *College Credits from Ft. Berthold Community College Pending*

For More Information Contact the IETAC II Center at 1-800-437-8054
or Carol Ann Heart, Conference Coordinator, ext. 252

Students, Staff & Faculty: Volunteers are needed for registration,
1 Unit Credit, 5 Workshops

Bismarck Police Department

November 27, 1995

Bismarck-Mandan News Media:

Air bags have saved many lives and prevented many injuries in high speed crashes, especially when they are used in combination with lap/shoulder belt systems. However, air bags can seriously injure or kill children who are not properly restrained.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is taking immediate action to solve this problem. They need your help in informing the public and advising every parent how to transport their children safely.

Help us inform the public. The enclosed media advisory and information sheet describes the problem and tells parents what they should do.

Dr. Ricardo Nartinez, NHTSA's Administrator, has a 1-2-3 message he wants to deliver to everyone--every parent, driver and grandparent:

1. Never put a rear-facing child seat in the front seat of a car equipped with air bags.
2. Make sure all children are properly buckled up no matter where they sit.
3. The rear seat is the safest place for children of any age to ride.

For additional information, please call Carol Holzer, ND Dept. of Health, 328-4537; Tim Garey, ND DOT, at 328-4358; or myself at 221-7204. Thank you.

Sincerely,



SGT. MARK BUSCHENA
Supervisor
Crime Prevention Section

Robert Matzke, Chief of Police

Phone: 701-223-1212 ★ FAX: 701-221-6804 ★ 700 S. Ninth Street ★ Bismarck, ND 58504-5899



Children & **AIR BAGS**

**It's as easy
as 1 - 2 - 3**

1

Never put a rear-facing child seat (those used with infants) in the front seat of a car with an air bag.

2

Make sure all children are buckled up no matter where they sit. Unbuckled children can be hurt or killed by an air bag.

3

The rear seat is the safest place for children of any age to ride.

Children & Air Bags

What's the Problem?

- ⇒ Most new cars have air bags for front-seat passengers. When used with lap/shoulder belts, air bags work very well to protect older children and adults who ride facing the front of the car.
- ⇒ *Air bags do not work with rear-facing child seats* (those used with infants).
- ⇒ Airbags could seriously injure or even kill an *unbuckled child or adult* who is sitting too close to the air bag or who is thrown toward the dash during emergency braking.
- ⇒ In a crash, the air bag inflates very quickly. It could hit anything close to the dashboard with enough force to cause severe injuries or even death. Because the back of a rear-facing child seat sits very close to the dashboard, the seat could be struck with enough force to cause serious, or even fatal injuries to a baby.
- ⇒ Even older children (who have outgrown child seats) are at risk from a deploying air bag, if they are not *properly* restrained with a lap/shoulder belt.

What Should I Do?

- ⇒ The *rear seat* is the safest place for children of any age to ride.
- ⇒ An infant in a *rear-facing* child seat must ride in the back seat if your vehicle has a passenger side air bag (babies under 1 year and 20 pounds should always ride in a rear-facing seat).
- ⇒ Make sure that everyone in the front seat is properly *buckled up* and seated as far back from the air bags as is reasonably possible.
- ⇒ Make sure that all young children are properly secured in a child safety seat and older children by a lap/shoulder belt. Know how to properly install your child seat in the vehicle. Read both the owner's manual for the vehicle and the instructions for your child safety seat.

Where Can I Get More Information?

- ⇒ Call NHTSA's toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1.800.424.9393.
- ⇒ Written information and "tip sheets" are available by writing to:

Child Safety Seats
National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration
400 7th Street S.W. NTS-13
Washington, DC 20590



U.S. Department of
Transportation

News:

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20590

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, October 27, 1995

NHTSA 72-95
Contact: Barry McCahill
Tel. No.: (202) 366-9550

**SAFETY AGENCY ISSUES WARNING
ON AIR BAG DANGER TO CHILDREN**

The head of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) today warned that children who are not protected by a seat belt could be injured seriously or killed by an air bag, and in the strongest possible terms urged parents to insist that their children ride belted in the back seat whenever possible.

NHTSA Administrator Dr. Ricardo Martinez said, "Don't gamble with your child's life, regardless of whether the vehicle has an air bag or not. Make it a hard and fast family rule that the vehicle doesn't move unless all occupants are belted."

NHTSA repeatedly has issued warnings of the dangers of placing a rear-facing infant seat in front of an air bag. Today's action broadens that warning to include older children and even adults who may be riding unrestrained.

The safety agency considers air bags to be supplemental frontal crash protection. The seat belt, which provides protection in all kinds of crashes, is the primary and most essential item of safety equipment.

Martinez also announced that next week NHTSA will issue a request for public comment on overall air bag performance to better understand their crash experience. The comments received will be the basis for any actions that may be necessary to improve motor vehicle occupant protection.

He pledged that this action would be handled expeditiously and include the motor vehicle industry, safety and medical organizations, individual citizens and others interested in the issue. "My charge to the agency staff and other participants will be to take stock of where we are today, determine what actions may be necessary to improve the safety of the American public, and set a course to take action quickly."

Martinez, a board-certified emergency physician, explained that children are very different physiologically than adults and more vulnerable to injury in a crash. "Parents and others who drive children ages 12 and under need to be aware of the added risk and make a fundamental decision that children will not ride without a seat belt or child safety seat. Preferably, they should ride in the back seat which is a much safer environment in a crash."

"If a child must ride in the front seat, move the seat back as far as it will go to put as much distance as possible between the child and the air bag," he added.

He said that air bags have a good overall safety record and credited them with saving more than 900 lives since they were introduced in the late 1980s. But NHTSA is aware of six crashes, some of which occurred at low speeds, in which a child riding in the front seat without a lap/shoulder belt was killed when the air bag deployed. In two other crashes, infants riding in a rear-facing child seat also were killed when the air bag struck the child seat and caused head injuries.

The lap and shoulder belt in combination with air bags is about 50 percent effective in preventing fatal injuries compared to being unrestrained. However, Martinez stressed that it is important for the public to understand that no safety device is a panacea and that deaths and injuries sometimes occur even when occupants have the benefit of both seat belts and air bags.

NHTSA crash investigators believe that all of the air bag-related child fatalities involved unbelted or improperly belted children. Because of pre-crash braking, they probably were positioned on or very near the dashboard at the time the air bag deployed. They were injured by the force of the deploying air bag or by being propelled against structures within the vehicle.

"It is alarming that after years of unprecedented national awareness about the importance of seat belts, and belt use laws in all but two states, that 40 percent of children still ride unprotected, without the critical protection of a seat belt or child safety seat. Seventy-two percent of children who were injured fatally in the front seat of a motor vehicle were riding unrestrained," Martinez said.

NHTSA's Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208 requires driver and front seat passenger air bags in all passenger cars and light trucks by 1999. But air bags already are standard equipment, at least on the driver-side, in most passenger vehicles sold today. The seat belt, which provides protection in all kinds of crashes, is the primary and most essential item of safety equipment.

As part of NHTSA's plan to open a public dialogue on air bag performance, Martinez said he would solicit the support of NHTSA's many highway and motor vehicle safety partners to ensure that even more is done to educate the public on the absolute need for seat belt use, and encourage such measures as tougher state seat belt use laws.

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NHTSA 75-95
Contact: Barry McCahill
Tel. No.: (202) 366-9550

**NHTSA TAKES ACTION TOWARD
IMPROVING AIR BAG SAFETY**

Just days after issuing a consumer advisory regarding the potential danger of air bags to children, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) today asked for broad-based public comment on ways to minimize adverse side effects of current and future air bag designs.

"Air bags have a good overall safety record and have already saved more than 900 lives since being introduced in the late 1980s. But NHTSA is aware of incidents of death and injury to children and adults related to air bag deployment," said Dr. Ricardo Martinez, NHTSA Administrator.

NHTSA repeatedly has issued warnings of the dangers of placing a rear-facing infant seat in front of an air bag. Last week, NHTSA broadened that warning to include older children and even adults who may be riding unrestrained. The agency stresses the extreme importance of ensuring that children be restrained and ride in the *back seat* whenever possible. The safety agency considers air bags to be supplemental frontal crash protection. The seat belt, which provides protection in all kinds of crashes, is the primary and most essential item of safety equipment.

The air bag and lap/shoulder belt combination is about 50 percent effective in preventing fatal injuries compared to being unrestrained. However, Martinez stressed that it is important for the public to understand that no safety device is a panacea and that deaths and injuries sometimes occur even when occupants have the benefit of both seat belts and air bags.

- more -

Martinez, a board-certified emergency physician, pledged that the agency's decision-making would be handled expeditiously and encouraged the motor vehicle industry, safety and medical organizations, individual citizens and others interested in the issue to participate by responding to the request for comments.

A notice to be published in this week's Federal Register contains a series of questions for experts and the public on field experience with air bags, crash sensors, air bag inflators, air bag design and positioning of occupants. For further information, contact Stephen R. Kratzke, Office of Vehicle Safety Standards, NPS-10, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh St., SW, Washington, DC 20590. The facsimile number is (202) 366-4329.

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